

What is claimed is:

1. A removable device including a multifunction handle coupled to the  
5 device, the multifunction handle including a force-developing portion and including  
an interlock portion adapted to be engaged by an interlock component, the handle  
operable to develop an insertion force at the force-developing portion responsive to  
a force applied to the handle and operable to secure the removable device in a  
desired position and prevent use of the handle responsive to the interlock portion  
10 being engaged by the interlock component.

2. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the force-developing portion  
comprises a cam.

15 3. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the interlock portion  
comprises an aperture in the handle and an aperture in a side of the removable  
device, and wherein the interlock component comprises a rod adapted to extend  
through the two apertures.

20 4. The removable device of claim 3 wherein the removable device  
comprises a removable mass storage device.

5. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the removable drive has a  
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle  
25 rotates in an upward and a downward direction about an axis that is parallel to the  
top and bottom panels.

6. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the removable drive has a  
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle  
30 develops the insertion force responsive to a sideways force applied leftward or  
rightward to the handle.

7. The removable device of claim 1 wherein the handle comprises:  
a front member;  
a back member;  
a first side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a  
5 second end coupled to the back member;  
a second side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a  
second end coupled to the back member, and including an aperture corresponding  
to the interlock portion; and  
at least one insertion cam extending from the back member.

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8. A computer system, comprising:  
computer circuitry;  
at least one drive bay, each drive bay being electrically coupled to the  
computer circuitry, and each drive bay including,  
15 an interlock mechanism, and  
a release switch; and  
at least one removable device, each removable device being adapted to be  
positioned in a drive bay and including a multifunction handle having an interlock  
portion, the handle developing an insertion force responsive to a force applied to  
20 the handle to assist in inserting the device into the bay, and the interlock  
mechanism operable to engage the interlock portion responsive to an activation  
signal from the computer circuitry, and the interlock mechanism operable to  
disengage the interlock portion responsive to a deactivation signal from the  
computer circuitry developed responsive to the release switch being activated.

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9. The computer system of claim 8 wherein each handle includes a cam  
that functions as a force-developing portion to develop the insertion force.

10. The computer system of claim 8 wherein each interlock portion  
30 comprises an aperture formed in the handle.

11. The computer system of claim 8 further comprising:

at least one input device coupled to the computer circuitry;  
at least one data output device coupled to the computer circuitry; and  
at least one permanent data storage device.

5           12. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the interlock mechanism  
comprises a solenoid.

13. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the removable device  
comprises a removable mass storage device.  
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14. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the removable drive has a  
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle  
rotates in an upward and a downward direction about an axis that is parallel to the  
top and bottom panels.

15           15. The computer system of claim 8 wherein the removable drive has a  
top panel, bottom panel, and two side panels, and wherein the multifunction handle  
develops the insertion force responsive to a sideways force applied leftward or  
rightward to the handle.

20           16. The computer system of claim 8 wherein release switch comprises a  
switch positioned adjacent an opening of each drive bay.

17. A multifunction handle adapted to be coupled to a removable device,  
25 the multifunction handle including a force-developing portion and including an  
interlock portion adapted to be engaged by an interlock component, the handle  
operable to develop an insertion force at the force-developing portion responsive to  
a force applied to the handle and operable to be secured in a fixed position  
responsive to the interlock portion being engaged by the interlock component.

30           18. The multifunction handle of claim 17 wherein the force-developing  
portion comprises a cam.

19. The multifunction handle of claim 17 wherein the interlock portion comprises an aperture.

5           20. The multifunction handle of claim 17 comprising:  
a front member;  
a back member;  
a first side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a  
second end coupled to the back member;  
10           a second side member having a first end coupled to the front member and a  
second end coupled to the back member, and including an aperture corresponding  
to the interlock portion; and  
at least one insertion cam extending from the back member.

15           21. A method of inserting a removable drive into a drive bay of a  
computer system, the removable drive including a handle and the method  
comprising:  
applying a force to the handle to insert the drive into the drive bay;  
detecting the insertion of the drive into the drive bay;  
20           disabling use of the handle and securing the drive in the drive bay  
responsive to the detecting the insertion of the drive into the drive bay;  
detecting activation of a release mechanism; and  
enabling use of the handle responsive to detecting activation of the release  
mechanism.

25           22. The method of claim 21 wherein detecting activation of a release  
mechanism comprising detecting an activation of a switch.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein detecting an activation of a switch  
30 comprises detecting selection of a soft switch displayed by the computer system.

24. The method of claim 21 further comprises updating information stored on the removable drive after detecting activation of a release mechanism and before enabling use of the handle.

- 5        25. The method of claim 21 wherein disabling use of the handle comprises inserting a rod through an aperture in the handle.